

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2004. Claims 1-47 are pending. Claims 1-47 are rejected. Accordingly, claims 1-47 remain pending in the present application.

Applicant includes a Petition for Extension of Time to extend the deadline for filing a response by two (2) months from January 6, 2005, to March 6, 2005.

Claim Objections

The Examiner states,

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the abstract cannot be more than two paragraph and more than 150 words. Correction is required. See MPEP 608.01(b).

The abstract has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's recommendation.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102

The Examiner states,

1. Claims 1-6, 9-22, 25-38, 41-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by "EAST Text Search Training."

2. In regards to claim 1, the "EAST Text Search Training" states a method for tracking a plurality of actions against at least one object by a computer system, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing an output view, wherein the output view includes a first output area and a second output area (page 29). The examiner interprets that the Tree view, BRS Form, and Details Grid are different windows that simultaneously display information about the action the user is performing with the interface;

(b) listing each of the plurality of actions in an action list in one of the first and second output area (page 47-49). The examiner interprets that the user has the ability to click on the List button to display further information about the action, which is being displayed in the Detail Grid;

(c) allowing a user to select one action from the action list (page 47-49). The examiner interprets that the user has the ability to click on the List button to display further information about the action, which is being displayed in the Detail Grid; and

(d) displaying information associated with the selected action in the other of the first and second output areas (page 47-49). The examiner notes that on page 49, East demonstrates how the information is being displayed in a Grid to the user, after the List button has been executed.

3. In regards to claim 2, The "EAST Text Search Training" states at least two of the plurality of actions are executed concurrently. (page 30) The examiner interprets that under the Pending Folder, that user is able to executed multiple queries, which the examiner interprets as actions, simultaneously with how much time has elapsed in the process.

4. In regards to claim 3, The "EAST Text Search Training" discloses the listing step (b) further includes the steps of:

(b1) displaying an action description for each action in the action list (page 40-44). The examiner interprets that after the enter button is pressed that the action inserted into the pending folder, which displays the action and has a small description above the action;

(b2) displaying a running status of each action in the action list (Page 41). The prior art illustrates displaying the running status by display the time of the elapsed proces; and

(b3) displaying a name of an object against which each action in the action list is directed (page 44). The examiner interprets that a name is given to every action by addressing it with an "L" followed by an incremented numeric number.

In regards to claim 4, The "EAST Text Search Training" states the listing step (b) further includes the steps of:

(b4) displaying a start timestamp for each action in the action list (page 30). The prior art discloses how in the pending folder that a time is displayed describing the amount of elapsed time for the process; and

(b5) displaying an end timestamp for each action in the action list (page 70). The examiner interprets that the end timestamp for each action is assigned an L-number, meaning the length of time on how long the action had taken.

5. In regards to claim 5, The "EAST Text Search Training" discloses the step of displaying the naming status (b) further includes the steps of:

(b2i) presenting a textual description of the naming status (page 49). The examiner interprets that the actions are described using the L-number set; and

(b2ii) provide a visual description of the naming status (page 49). The examiner interprets that right next to the numeric number is description of the action in the Active folder to the user to refer to quickly. If the user decides to elaborate in the detail the user by user a pointing device and highlight the action.

6. In regards to claim 6, The "EAST Text Search Training" states the listing step (b) further includes the step of:

(b4) entering a new action to the action list when the user has submitted the new action against an object (page 42). The examiner interprets that the user has the ability to insert multiple actions as an action is going on.

7. In regards to claim 9, The "EAST Text Search Training" states (e) allowing the user to remove at least one of the actions from the action list (page 85-87). The prior art illustrates steps in emptying the Trash folder, after the user has temporarily deleted actions for the Active folder.

8. In regards to claim 10, The "EAST Text Search Training" states the step of removing the at least one action (e) further includes:

(e1) setting a maximum number of actions in the action list (page 44); and

(e2) replacing a least recent action in the action list with a new action when the maximum number of actions has been reached (page 71). The examiner interprets that if the user has the ability to re-use L-numbers in the Active folder, that is a form removing an old action, and replacing it with a new one.

9. In regards to claim 11, The "EAST Text Search Training" discloses the step of removing the at least one action (e) further includes:

(e1) selecting an action for removal (page 85-86); and

(e2) providing a popup menu to the user, wherein the popup menu allows the user to remove the selected action (page 86).

10. In regards to claim 12, The "EAST Text Search Training" states the step of removing the at least one action (e) further includes:

- (e1) selecting an action for removal (page 85-86); and
- (e2) pressing a predefined key on a keyboard to delete the selected action (page 86).

11. In regards to claim 13, The "EAST Text Search Training" discloses the information associated with the selected action includes a message, an associated result, and at least one parameter (page 50).

12. In regards to claim 14, The "EAST Text Search Training" states the step of displaying (d) further includes the steps of:

- (d1) allowing the user to select one of the message, the associated result, and the at least one parameter for the selected action (page 50); and
- (d2) repeating step (d1) with the user is satisfied (page 53). The examiner interprets in the prior art that the user has the ability to re-execute the searched that have archived.

13. In regards to claim 15, The "EAST Text Search Training" discloses the step of (3) repeating steps (c) and (d) until the user is satisfied (page 50-53). The examiner can re-execute archived search over and over again, or even modify each action slightly to get the exact result.

14. In regards to claim 16, The "EAST" Text Search Training" states the step of (f) allowing the user to print, save, copy, and append to a file the information associated with the selected action (page 51 & 117). In the prior art the user on page 51 illustrates the step in saving actions the user prefers, and page 117 illustrates the step in printing information of the actions.

15. Claims 17, 33 are substantially equivalent to claim 1, therefore claims 17, 33 are rejected because of similar rationale.

16. Claims 18, 34 are substantially equivalent to claim 2, therefore claims 18, 34 are rejected because of similar rationale.

17. Claims 19, 35 are substantially equivalent to claim 3, therefore claims 19, 35 are rejected because of similar rationale.

18. Claims 20, 36 are substantially equivalent to claim 4, therefore claims 20, 33 are rejected because of similar rationale.

19. Claims 21, 37 are substantially equivalent to claim 5, therefore claims 21, 37 are rejected because of similar rationale.

20. Claims 22, 38 are substantially equivalent to claim 6, therefore claims 22, 38 are rejected because of similar rationale.

21. Claims 25, 41 are substantially equivalent to claim 9, therefore claims 25, 41 are rejected because of similar rationale

22. Claims 26, 42 are substantially equivalent to claim 10, therefore claims 26, 42 are rejected because of similar rationale.

23. Claims 27, 43 are substantially equivalent to claim 11, therefore claims 27, 43 are rejected because of similar rationale.

24. Claims 28, 44 are substantially equivalent to claim 12, therefore claims 28, 44 are rejected because of similar rationale.

25. Claims 29, 45 are substantially equivalent to claim 13, therefore claims 29, 45 are rejected because of similar rationale.

26. Claims 30, 46 are substantially equivalent to claim 14, therefore claims 30, 46 are rejected because of similar rationale.

27. Claims 31 is substantially equivalent to claim 15, therefore claim 31 is rejected because of similar rationale.

28. Claims 32, 47 are substantially equivalent to claim 16, therefore claims 32, 47 are rejected because of similar rationale.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 103

The Examiner states,

4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness

Claims 7, 8, 23, 24, 39 & 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over “EAST Text Search Training” in view of Netter (U.S. Application Number 2002/0038388).

“EAST Text Search Training” shows an action list that has a name and a timestamp of the action, which is being performed but does not show a method of sorting the actions that are located in the Action folder.

Netter shows an apparatus that allows the user to query the database via using a web browser, tacking information that is being distributed, and also discloses a method of sorting the action information by name, time, or date.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use Netter, method of sorting by name, time, or data with “EAST Text Search Training”, which allows multiple actions to be executed currently and that display all the actions’ results.

The modifications would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine because it would all for a user to separately control the information or actions, including selected portions thereof, as desired by the user.

29. In regards to claim 7, The “EAST Text Search Training” states sorting the action list according to one of the start timestamp and the end timestamp of each action on the action list (page 41). The examiner infers that after an action is complete the action is give a L-number, which an end timestamp, and is sorted in numeric order.

30. In regards to claim 8, The “EAST Text Search Training” states (e) sorting the action list by one of the action description, the running status and the object name (Netter, paragraph 160) [The date engine 82 allows searching of a session by date, either individually or by date groupings. The user engine 84 allows searching by conference participant. Searching may be achieved by entering a user’s conference identification number, or other types of identifiers, as desired. Similarly, the event type engine 86 facilitates searching of the sales interaction data by applet type employed in the sales interaction. Any custom applet, which was captured during a session, may be listed in an event type drop down menu. Also, the sort engine 88 allows for searching of the data by any classification such as by user name, session number, time interval, event description, and/or session date.] The examiner interprets that user has the ability to sort

all actions by name or date. The date of the action could also be the timestamp of the actions.

31. Claims 23, 39 are substantially equivalent to claim 7, therefore claims 23, 29 are rejected because of similar rationale.

32. Claims 24, 40 are substantially equivalent to claim 8, therefore claims 24, 40 are rejected because of similar rationale.

Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The Present Invention

The present invention is directed to a method and system for tracking a plurality of actions against at least one object by a computer system. The method and system comprises providing an output view, wherein the output view includes a first output area and a second output area. An action list containing each of the plurality of actions is displayed in one of the first and second output areas. A user is allowed to select one action from the action list, and information associated with the selected action is displayed in the other of the first and second output areas.

Through aspects of the present invention, multiple actions against a plurality of objects can be executed and tracked concurrently because each action is represented by a separate entry in the action list. In addition, the method and system of the present invention provides historical content that lets the user examine the information associated with any action on the action list regardless of when that action was submitted or executed.

Prior Art

The Examiner has used the EAST Text Search Training document as the reference applied. This document describes a software interface that connects with the PTO database files and the Derwent database. The search language used with these databases is the BRS search engine. The EAST software uses a middleware translator to convert search commands into a

form that the BRS search engine understands. The EAST Text searching described in pages 27-19 shows a workspace that has a window with subwindows within it. In this embodiment, the work space comprises a preview which contains various folders associated with the active working or save sections, a search form window where you enter search queries, and a Detail Grid which displays the results of the search. Furthermore, at pages 47-49, what is illustrated is how the EAST system processes the search. In this embodiment if you enter search on the BRS form, and either press enter or click on the search button, EAST will execute the search and return a list number. That list will be displayed in the Detail Grid. This description does not teach or suggest the independent claims as recited in the present invention because it is directed toward a system that is clearly different from that disclosed and claimed in the present invention.

For ease of understanding, independent claims 1, 17 and 33 are reproduced hereinbelow.

1. (original) A method for tracking a plurality of actions against at least one object by a computer system, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing an output view, wherein the output view includes a first output area and a second output area;
- (b) listing each of the plurality of actions in an action list in one of the first and second output areas;
- (c) allowing a user to select one action from the action list; and
- (d) displaying information associated with the selected action in the other of the first and second output areas.

17. (original) A computer readable medium containing programming instructions for tracking a plurality of actions against at least one object by a computer system, comprising the instructions for:

- (a) providing an output view, wherein the output view includes a first output area and a second output area;
- (b) listing each of the plurality of actions in an action list in one of the first and second output areas;
- (c) allowing a user to select an action from the action list; and
- (d) displaying information associated with the selected action in the other of the first and second output areas.

33. (original) A computer system for tracking a plurality of actions against at

least one object comprising:
a display;
at least one processor coupled to the display for providing an output view on the display, wherein the output view includes a first output area and a second output area, and wherein an action list comprising each of the plurality of actions is displayed in one of the first and second output areas; and
an input device coupled to the processor for allowing a user to select an action from the action list;
wherein the processor causes information associated with the selected action to be displayed in the other of the first and second output areas of the output view.

Argument

The present invention is directed as above described to a method, computer readable medium, and system for tracking a plurality of actions against at least one object by a computer system. EAST is directed to a method for searching a database. EAST neither teaches nor suggests listing each of the plurality of actions in an action list in one of the first and second output areas. EAST discloses entering a search in a form and then when that search is executed providing the search results in a Detail Grid based upon that search. It nowhere teaches or suggests listing each of the plurality of actions in an action list as recited in the claims. Accordingly, as disclosed in the application at page 5, lines 1-2, “each kind of an action is submitted against a given object by the user and an entry is added in the action list”.

In EAST, when the search term is entered, this is not added to the Detailed Grid until the search is executed. The Detailed Grid actually gives the results of the search but does not provide an indication of the action until the search is completed. In the present invention, the action list could, for example, indicate the status, the action object name for each submitted action. The status, for example, would indicate whether the action is in progress or is successful or has not been executed due to an error. There is no teaching or suggestion in EAST of a **listing of an** action list as recited in the present invention. In addition, since there is no listing of each of the plurality of actions in an action list, there is no allowing a user to select one action from the

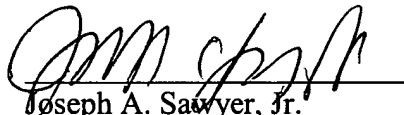
action list and displaying information associated with the selected action in the other of the first or second output areas as recited in the claims.

In EAST, as above mentioned, after the search is entered, then information associated with the search is displayed in the detail grid. But there is no teaching of an action list in which there is an indication of whether, for example, the action has been successful, or has not been executed, or is in progress. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 7 and 13 are not taught or suggested by the EAST reference. In addition, claims 2-16, 18-32 and 34-47 are allowable since they are dependent upon an allowable base claims.

Applicants' attorney believes this application in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP

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